

West Lancashire Rural District
Council.



.. Annual Report ..

FOR THE YEAR 1914.



Medical Officer of Health:

GEORGE EDWARD SCHOLEFIELD

M.D. Edin., D.P.H. Vict.

West Lancashire Rural District Council,

1914.

Chairman .. HENRY UNDERWOOD.

Vice-Chairman .. JOHN PIMBLEY.



Altcar	..	..	..	CHARLES HY. MILBOURN.
Aughton	..	..	..	HENRY UNDERWOOD.
„	..	..	..	RICHARD ROTHWELL.
Bickerstaffe	..	..	..	RICHARD RIMMER.
„	..	..	..	THOMAS HEYES.
Bispham	..	..	..	THOMAS ASPINWALL.
Downholland	..	..	..	JOB SUMNER.
Halsall	..	..	..	JOHN HARRISON.
Hesketh	..	..	..	DAVID RIMMER.
Lydiat	..	..	..	JAMES G. BLACKLEDGE.
Maghull	..	..	..	JOHN PIMBLEY.
Melling	..	..	..	EDWARD SERVICE.
North Meols	..	..	..	JOHN WAREING.
Rufford	..	..	..	CHARLES YATES.
Scarisbrick	..	..	..	BERNARD H. HOLMAN.
„				PETER RIMMER.
Simonswood	..	..	..	JAMES HEYES.
Tarleton	..	..	..	ROBERT LATHAM.

Annual Report for 1914.



*To the Chairman and Members of the West
Lancashire Rural District Council.*



GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting for your consideration my Seventeenth Annual Report, dealing with the Vital Statistics, the Public Health, and the Sanitary Work of the District during the year 1914.

POPULATION.—This is calculated on the number of Inhabited Houses in the District, and this, as supplied to me by the Assistant Overseers, was, at the end of the year, 4,526, and on this basis I estimate that the population was, at the middle of the year, 20,951, an increase over that of the previous year of 169.

In Altcar, Aughton, Halsall, Hesketh, Maghull, Rufford, Scarisbrick, Simonswood, and Tarleton, there was an increase of population, while in Bispham, Bickerstaffe, Downholland, Lydiate, Melling, and North Meols, there was a decrease.

The residents in the various Institutions numbered 408, and this number is deducted in arriving at the various rates that follow.

BIRTH-RATE.—The number of BIRTHS registered during the year was 405, to which number must be added those of 2 which occurred outside the District, making the net

number 407 ; of which 197 were boys, and 210 girls, which gives an ANNUAL BIRTH-RATE of 19·81 per 1000 of the population living. This is ·31 less than that for the previous year, and 2·31 less than the average of the 10 preceding years. It is also the lowest Birth-rate recorded. Fourteen of the Births were illegitimate, being 3·4 per cent. of the total Births.

DEATH-RATE.—Two hundred and fifty-three DEATHS were registered as having occurred in the District during the year, to which must be added those of 23 which occurred in the Ormskirk Workhouse, 4 in Liverpool Hospitals, 6 in Southport, 3 in Ormskirk, 1 in Lathom, and 1 in Lancaster Asylum, while 8 in the Epileptic Homes, Maghull, 6 belonging to Southport, 2 to Skelmersdale, 1 to Ince Blundell, and 1 to Little Lever must be deducted. This gives a net total of 273, of which 153 were males and 120 females. The resulting ANNUAL DEATH-RATE, corrected by the factor supplied by the Registrar General, is 13·03 per 1000, which is ·28 higher than that for the previous year, and 1·76 higher than the average of the preceding ten years.

EPIDEMIC DEATH-RATE.—The seven principal Epidemic Diseases were responsible for 18 deaths, the same number as in 1913, as follows :—Scarlet Fever 1, Diphtheria 7, Enteric Fever 1, Measles 1, Whooping Cough 5, and Diarrhœa 3. The Annual rate is ·87, that for the previous year being ·88, and the average of the 10 preceding years being ·85.

INFANTILE MORTALITY-RATE.—Fifty-one Deaths of children under the age of one year were registered, to which number must be added those of 2 in Southport and 1 in the Ormskirk Workhouse, and one belonging to Little Lever and 1 to Skelmersdale must be deducted, giving a net total of 52. This gives an Annual Infantile Mortality-rate of 127 per 1,000 Births, that for 1913 being 94 and the average of the ten preceding years being 93. Three of these infants were

illegitimate, being 5·7 per cent. of the total infantile deaths. Premature Birth and other allied causes were responsible for 19 deaths, and 10 were due to disease of the Respiratory Organs, both being in excess of the average.

On page 8 is a table which gives the rates for various diseases for comparison with those of the previous 10 years. It may be noted that Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Influenza, and Cancer as well as Premature Birth, were above the average; while Phthisis Pulmonalis, Measles, and Diarrhœa were below the average. Nearly one fourth of the total deaths were of persons who had attained the age of 70 years or over, and in fact more than one half the deaths were at the two extremes of life.

The table following compares the foregoing rates with those for England and Wales.

DEATHS AND OTHER RATES FOR ENGLAND AND WALES
AND THE WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT.

	Birth-rate per 1,000 living.	Death-rate per 1,000 living.	Epidemic Death-rate per 1,000 living.	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.
England and Wales	23·3	13·6	...	105
Rural England & Wales	21·9	12·2	..	93
West Lancashire Rural District	19·81	13·03	·87	127

VITAL AND OTHER STATISTICS OF THE TOWNSHIPS COMPRISED IN THE WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT.

1914.	Average.	Population estimated to middle of 1914.	Number of Inhabited Houses 1914.	Birth-Rate per 1000 living.	Average of previous ten years.	Death-Rate per 1000 living.	Average of previous ten years.	Epidemic D'th-rate per 1000 living.	Average of previous ten years.	Infant Mortality per 1000 Births.	Average of previous ten years.
ALTCAR	4,448	485	96	14.43	18.17	8.24	11.79	—	.77	—	113
AUGHTON	4,611	3,706	818	18.36	23.74	11.33	11.83	.27	.86	88	82
BICKERSTAFFE	6,452	2,032	391	29.52	24.61	16.47	12.36	1.93	.77	133	92
BISPHAM	926	268	59	18.65	18.87	11.19	13.57	—	1.40	200	77
DOWNHOLLAND	3,474	668	148	16.46	21.19	19.46	15.05	—	.64	—	121
HALSALL	6,994	1,480	329	15.54	25.62	11.48	11.48	1.36	.88	260	96
HESKETH	4,871	1,179	281	20.35	26.59	14.41	14.06	2.52	1.30	125	60
LYDIATE	1,994	1,038	214	15.42	21.76	16.37	14.16	2.89	1.25	250	68
MAGHULL	2,099	1,738	299	15.71	20.48	14.97	13.90	.75	1.11	95	95
MELLING	2,118	1,057	207	18.91	26.59	20.81	12.72	—	1.27	150	109
NORTH MEOLS	3,892	1,837	421	20.44	25.50	11.97	12.90	1.08	1.06	177	99
RUFFORD	3,122	812	191	20.93	18.75	9.85	13.76	1.23	.16	58	104
SCARISBRICK	8,397	2,264	496	20.31	18.83	11.04	13.46	—	.52	65	90
SIMONSWOOD	2,644	302	64	33.11	17.10	26.49	11.31	3.33	.89	300	66
TARLETON	5,558	2,085	512	15.30	24.79	10.07	13.62	.95	.49	93	115
WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT	61,600	20,951	4,526	19.81	22.12	13.03	11.27	.87	.85	127	93

Table showing the number of Houses in each Township and in the whole District known to be Infected during the year, and the numbers of Cases and Deaths.

1914.		TOWNSHIP.		Smallpox.		Scarlet Fever.		Diphtheria.		Enteric Fever.		Measles.		Whooping Cough.		Erysipelas.		Puerperal Fever.		Diarrhoea.		Totals.			
		H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.
ALTCAR																							2	4	
AUGHTON																							43	51	1
BICKERSTAFFE																							45	74	4
BISPHAM																							1	1	
DOWNHOLLAND																							7	7	
HALSALL																							17	30	2
HESKETH																							75	113	3
LYDIATE																							19	38	2
MAGHULL																							2	4	1
MELLING																							2	3	
NORTH MEOLS																							47	61	2
RUFFORD																							3	3	1
SCARISBRICK																							36	59	
SIMONSWOOD																							2	5	1
TARLETON																							81	118	2
WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT. . .		46	74	157	88	7	6	1	95	149	1	163	237	5	13	13	1	2	2	3	3	3	383	572	19

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT FROM 1904 TO 1914.

	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	Mean of 10 years, 1904 to 1913.	Mean of England & Wales, 1903 to 1912.
Estimated Population ...	20,445	20,506	20,109	20,318	20,208	20,156	20,486	20,684	20,744	20,782	20,951	...	...
Birth Rate, per 1000 living	23.77	24.04	24.11	20.11	24.71	21.68	22.55	20.76	21.73	20.12	19.81	22.12	26.62
Death Rate	13.20	11.99	14.07	12.94	14.35	13.29	11.27	13.51	10.52	12.56	13.03	11.27	14.89
Epidemic Death Rate	1.17	.63	1.19	.78	.79	.34	.53	1.45	.63	.88	.87	.85	1.54
Smallpox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.009
Measles.....	.44	...	.14	.14	...	.09	.09	.09	.09	.19	.04	.11	.32
Scarlet Fever .....	.04	.04	.14	.19	.14	...	...	.04	.09	.09	.04	.08	.07
Diphtheria .....	...	.09	.04	.09	.04	.04	.19	.18	.29	.28	.34	.13	.14
Whooping Cough .....	.29	.09	.14	.09	.34	.09	.14	.14	...	...	.24	.13	.26
Heart Diseases	1.66	.87	1.34	1.67	1.98	1.28	1.22	1.38	1.18	1.20	1.36	1.37	1.40
Enteric Fever. ....	.09	.19	.14	.04	.08	...	...	.04	...	...	.04	.03	.07
Diarrhoea .....	.28	.19	.54	.19	.14	.09	.09	.94	.14	.28	.14	.28	.53
Premature Birth .....	.29	.34	.14	.44	.44	.49	.53	.69	.63	.62	.92	.44	.60
Erysipelas .....	.09	...	...	...	.49	.14	...	.09	...	.04	.04	.03	.02
Influenza .....	.24	.09	...	.24	.08	.24	.09	.18	.09	.14	.19	.08	.22
Puerperal Fever.....	...	.14	.04	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.02	.03
Rheumatic Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.09	...	.04	...	.01	.06
Pulmonary Phthisis ..	.83	1.07	.84	.54	.84	.94	.73	.64	.39	.91	.56	.77	1.12
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, & Pleurisy	2.15	1.90	1.84	2.26	1.88	3.02	1.56	2.36	1.91	1.58	2.33	2.14	2.41
Cancer .....	.48	.63	.84	.64	.69	1.19	.86	.64	.73	1.29	1.07	.81	.91
Violence, Accident, and Suicide...	.51	.73	1.09	.78	.79	.69	.58	.54	.59	.50	.40	.68	.54
Old Age	1.02	1.12	1.88	1.47	1.53	1.28	1.17	1.14	1.37	1.25	1.02	1.32	.92
Infant Mortality, per 1000 Births	113	103	93	84	98	100	77	104	67	94	127	93	120

Table showing the number of Cases of Infectious Disease which came to the knowledge of the Sanitary Authority during the years 1904 to 1914, and also the number of Houses infected and the Deaths that occurred.

	Smallpox.			Scarlet Fever.			Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.			Enteric Fever.			Erysipelas.			Puerperal Fever.			TOTALS.			Measles.			Whooping Cough.			Diarrhoea and Dysentery.			TOTALS.		
	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.			
1904	57	77	1	1	1	0	12	12	2	6	6	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	76	95	5	230	331	9	64	97	6	6	6	300	434	21	
1905	55	83	1	12	14	2	13	15	4	7	7	0	3	3	3	3	3	3	90	122	10	131	196	0	2	2	2	4	4	4	137	202	6
1906	32	39	3	7	7	1	18	22	3	9	9	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	67	78	8	95	145	3	3	3	3	11	11	11	109	159	17
1907	40	83	4	12	14	2	5	5	1	7	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	64	109	7	212	430	3	19	28	2	4	4	4	225	462	9
1908	49	73	3	4	4	1	9	22	2	8	9	...	3	3	2	...	...	...	73	111	8	3	3	...	165	257	7	3	3	3	171	263	10
1909	45	82	0	13	13	1	5	6	...	14	14	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	77	115	4	192	307	2	13	15	2	1	2	2	206	324	6
1910	44	56	0	26	31	4	7	7	...	11	11	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	89	106	4	82	135	2	116	148	3	2	2	2	200	285	7
1911	45	58	1	35	43	4	12	12	1	1	10	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	102	123	8	17	37	2	39	47	3	18	19	19	74	103	24
1912	69	95	2	19	24	6	2	3	...	11	11	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	103	135	8	106	147	2	...	...	...	3	3	3	109	150	5
1913	74	102	2	45	55	6	7	7	...	8	8	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	134	172	9	198	311	4	15	27	...	6	6	6	219	344	10
1914	46	74	1	57	88	7	6	6	1	13	13	1	2	2	...	...	...	...	124	183	10	95	149	1	163	237	5	3	3	3	261	389	9

The figures given in this table differ from those given in the Annual Reports previous to 1905, as the returns for Ainsdale and Formby are not included.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

On page 7 will be found a Table giving the number of cases of Infectious Disease which came to my knowledge during the year, the number of Houses which were infected, and the number of Deaths due to those diseases. This table also allocates the cases to the different Townships in which they occurred. Also on page 9 will be found another Table which gives for comparison the number of cases which were known to be in the District for each of the ten preceding years. From the former table it will be seen that there were in all 572 cases in 383 separate houses and 19 deaths. In comparison with the previous year this is an increase of 56 cases and thirty houses, the deaths being the same. Respecting the individual diseases there were 33 more cases of Diphtheria with 1 more death, 210 more of Whooping Cough with 5 deaths, 5 more cases of Erysipelas, and 2 more of Puerperal Fever. There were 28 fewer cases of Scarlet Fever with 1 death less, 1 less of Enteric Fever but 1 more death, 162 fewer of Measles and 3 deaths less, and 3 cases less of Diarrhoea.

In addition to the usual notifications from Medical Practitioners the Officials of Schools notified to me 145 cases of Measles, and 236 cases of Whooping Cough. Parents notified 5 cases of Scarlet Fever, 1 case of Diphtheria, and 4 cases of Measles.

SMALLPOX.

No cases of this disease occurred during the year. Should there be any we can send them to Liverpool, or if necessary the tent hospital can quickly be erected.

SCARLET FEVER.

HOUSES, 46. CASES, 74. DEATH, 1.

There were 28 fewer cases of this disease than during the

previous year the difference being largely due to the decrease in the Township of Aughton. The cases were spread over the whole year, at no time was there any appearance of the disease being epidemic, and there were no special features in connection with any outbreak. The cases were in the following Townships :—Aughton 17, Bickerstaffe 9, Downholland 1, Halsall 15, Hesketh 1, Lydiate 12, Maghull 3, Melling 2, North Meols 6, Scarisbrick 6, and Tarleton 2.

DIPHTHERIA.

HOUSES, 57. CASES, 88. DEATHS, 7.

There were 33 more cases of this disease than in 1913, and a larger number than have been recorded in any previous year, the reason being the severe epidemic that occurred during the autumn months in the Township of Bickerstaffe. A special report on that epidemic is included herewith, and the other cases were not accompanied by circumstances that call for any special comment.

To the Chairman and Members of the West Lancashire Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

Diphtheria having been so prevalent in the Township of Bickerstaffe since the third week in September, I consider it advisable to present for your information a Special Report on the subject.

It is somewhat interesting to note that during the last 25 years the incidence of the disease has been somewhat irregular, there being 31 cases (8 fatal) from 1890 to 1913 inclusive, and in fourteen of these years there were no cases at all.

In 1914, 61 cases in Bickerstaffe and 4 in Simonswood came to my knowledge, the latter attending Bickerstaffe School

may be included with the Bickerstaffe cases, and there have been 2 cases early in this month.

The first case in March, notified as a doubtful one, attended a private school and had no connection with any of the later ones.

In April a boy attending the Bickerstaffe School had the disease, and in July 2 cases were notified, one, a girl, aged 6, attending school, and the other a baby aged 6 weeks. Both the boy and girl had swabs taken from their throats later when the disease became prevalent with negative results.

No further cases were notified until September 17th, when 2 were seen in one house, followed by another the next day; 2 of these children were visitors who arrived on September 5th, and all 3 attended school until September 12th, when 2 of them commenced to be ill, followed by the third child 5 days later.

On September 23rd another case was notified, followed by fourteen cases up to October 11th of children who had been attending the school which had been closed on September 26th. No other cases occurring among children connected with the school, it was re-opened on October 26th. In the meantime there had been 8 cases, having no connection with either the school or school children.

Further cases followed at intervals both among school children and also others until between September 17th and January 6th of this year 64 cases came to my knowledge.

Forty-two were children attending Bickerstaffe School, 2 attended Melling R.C. School, 2 a school in Ormskirk, 7 were too young to attend, and 11 were over school age.

There were 6 cases in 1 house, 4 in another, 3 in each of 4 houses, and 2 in each of 14 houses. In the house where the 6 cases were a boy had suspicious bacilli on the first swab taken from his throat, the second, after treatment, had no growth of organisms at all, and the third was pronounced free from the Klebs-Loeffler Bacillus; 7 days afterwards he and 3 others commenced, followed by the remaining 2 in 5 days. None of the children had been at school for 10 days. In 7 of the houses other members of the family had Klebs-Loeffler Baccilli in either throat or nose, 3 of them afterwards having the disease.

On September 26th the school closed for the annual potato picking holiday, and I advised that it should remain closed until October 26th. On re-opening careful inquiry was made into the state of health of the children during the period of closure, and a number of them were excluded; these I visited and examined at their own homes, taking swabs from throats and noses. In addition to these, swabs were taken from all the apparently healthy children in school, and those who were absent were followed up for same purpose. Contact cases were kept under observation and swabs taken from their throats. In all 415 swabs were taken from the throats and noses of apparently healthy children, and on those from 21 Klebs-Leoeffler Bacilli were found. These children were excluded from school and subjected to treatment until no bacilli were found on further swabs. As further cases appeared I advised that the school be again closed from December 8th until January 4th, but owing to 9 cases being reported on December 19th and 24th, after consulting with Dr. Butterworth, Chief School Medical Officer to the County, I advised further closure until January 18th.

Of the 64 cases since September 17th, 57 were removed to hospital, 2 proving fatal, and of the remainder 2 were fatal before removal could be effected, and 2 were considered

by the medical attendant too ill for removal to be advisable, but eventually recovered.

Swabs were taken from all cases before release from isolation.

The sanitary conveniences at the school were reconstructed some time ago, and when examined were satisfactorily clean, the only fault found on the premises being two blocked rain water gullies.

I made inquiry into the home conditions of the two visiting children who were among the earliest cases, but was assured by the Medical Officer of Health that there was no ground for thinking that they had imported the disease.

At 18 of the houses where cases occurred the sanitary conditions were not satisfactory, and the necessary action was taken by the Sanitary Inspector.

The water supply to the school and to the majority of the houses is from public mains. Owing to complaints as to the quality of that supplied to the school and to the houses in the neighbourhood, I had two samples examined bacteriologically, the report in each case being satisfactory.

The whole of the school premises were several times carefully disinfected both by spraying and by fumigation.

One point in connection with the epidemic which appears to me to be very clearly proved is the value of the injection of Diphtheria Antitoxin. Out of 22 cases from 1890 to 1902, when Antitoxin was not regularly used, there were 8 deaths, while during the epidemic under review the remedy was injected into 62 patients, and of these 2 only died; the other 2 cases that terminated fatally had no injection.

The figures in my opinion speak for themselves, and justifies the supply of the remedial serum at the public expense.

Another fact worthy of notice is that, although the school was closed in the first instance for one month, there was no diminution in the number of cases, nor until over 16 days after the school was closed for the second time.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. E. SCHOLEFIELD,

Medical Officer of Health.

January 21st, 1915.

ENTERIC FEVER.

HOUSES, 6. CASES, 6. DEATH, 1.

Of the six cases notified two on removal to hospital proved to be other diseases. One case in Tarleton was imported, and in the other three cases there was no apparent cause.

MEASLES.

HOUSES, 95. CASES, 149. DEATH, 1.

This disease was much less prevalent than in 1913, Hesketh and Scarisbrick being the only Townships to suffer to any serious extent, the school in the former place being closed from March 3rd to 16th, and the Township School, Scarisbrick, from December 7th to 24th. Also St. Mary's School, Scarisbrick, from March 18th to April 15th.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

HOUSES, 163. CASES, 237. DEATHS, 5.

This disease was much more prevalent than in the previous year, the Townships of Lydiate, North Meols, and Tarleton being the worst sufferers. The disease in all cases was connected with the schools, and Tarleton School was closed from June 26th to July 20th. Mere Brow School from July 1st to 27th. The Primitive Methodist School, Banks, from August 18th to September 9th, and the Roman Catholic School, Lydiate, from November 9th to December 7th.

DIARRHŒA.

There were 3 deaths due to this disease in three different Townships.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

There were two cases of this disease, one in North Meols, and one in Scarisbrick, neither being fatal.

ERYSIPELAS.

Thirteen cases with one death were notified. No special comment is called for.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS.

Two cases were notified, one in Melling, and one in Aughton, the latter proving fatal. In the Melling case the premises were undergoing repair at the time, notices having been served on the owner, the family removed to an adjoining district when the case had sufficiently recovered. The case in Aughton resided in a new house, and there were no circumstances in connection with the case that appeared to be the cause of the disease.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Twenty-nine cases of this disease were notified, 26 by Private Practitioners, and 3 by Medical Officers of Schools. In 18 cases the disease was situated in the lungs and the remaining 11 in some other part of the system. Five of the cases were imported, and in 6 instances the premises where the patients lived were more or less in an insanitary condition. Ten of the cases terminated fatally, and there were 6 deaths of cases previously notified. All the houses where fatal cases occurred were disinfected as were others where it appeared benefit would accrue.

ISOLATION AND DISINFECTION.

All houses in which cases of an infectious nature are known to exist whether notified by medical men or not, are visited, an endeavour being made to discover the source of the infection and frequently much valuable information is gained, and other cases are often brought to light.

Instructions are given to the householders regarding the precautions that should be taken to prevent, if possible, further spread of the disease, and a copy of the "Rules and Regulations to be observed in the Management of Infectious Diseases" is left at the house, and should the disease be Scarlet Fever, an additional leaflet is left, drawing attention to the responsibilities and liabilities of parents in regard to the notification and the prevention of the spread of the disease. The leaflets are also distributed among the parents of children who are attending a school in which cases of Scarlet Fever have occurred. It is not unusual for parents to consider that a mild attack of Scarlet Fever is Measles, and in this way much mischief is done by the patient being allowed to mix with other children while in an infectious state.

Izal is supplied in all cases by the Inspector to persons in whose house there are cases of infectious disease, if application is made for it.

At the termination of all cases of Diphtheria, Enteric Fever, Puerperal Fever, Scarlet Fever, and Smallpox, the hospital porter proceeds to the house, and thoroughly disinfects the rooms where the patients have been, removing to Holly House for steam disinfection everything that may require it.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

“Holly House,” Aughton, formerly a country residence, was acquired by the District Council, and after alterations had been made so as to provide accommodation for eight Scarlet Fever and two Enteric Fever cases, it was opened for the admission of patients on February 9th, 1897. Attached to the establishment is a “Thresh” Steam Disinfector and there is also a Brougham Ambulance and Bedding Van. Along with the house there are four acres of land.

A new Pavilion was opened in July, 1902, for the reception of cases of Scarlet Fever.

Two new small wards were added at the beginning of 1911 giving accommodation for six more patients. At the same time some much-needed accommodation for the resident staff was provided.

The Urban District of Croston, the Urban District of Skelmersdale, and the Ormskirk Guardians (for the Workhouse and Schools) have agreements with the Council by which they can send patients to the hospital.

The following is a summary of the work done at the Hospital during the year :—

In drawing your attention to the summary of the work done at the Hospital during the year I would like you to notice that there have been more cases treated in the institution than in any previous year since the Hospital was opened, the chief reason being the unprecedented number of cases of Diphtheria which were admitted; and had the hospital not been available I am convinced that not only would the number of cases have been considerably increased, but the fatal cases would have been more numerous, as many of the houses from which the patients were removed were quite unsuitable for the treatment of this disease.

On January 1st there were 2 cases of Scarlet Fever and 1 of Enteric Fever in the hospital, and during the year there were admitted 64 cases of Scarlet Fever, 71 cases of Diphtheria, and 8 cases of Enteric Fever, making 143 admissions in all. The cases were from the following Townships :—
Scarlet Fever : Aughton 15, Bickerstaffe 7, Downholland 1, Halsall 14, Lydiate 8, Maghull 3, Melling 2, North Meols 6, Scarisbrick 5, and Tarleton 1. Diphtheria : Aughton 2, Bickerstaffe 53, Bispham 1, Halsall 1, Hesketh 5, Maghull 2, Scarisbrick 2, Simonswood 4, Tarleton 1. Enteric Fever : Hesketh 1, Lydiate 1, North Meols 1. In addition to the foregoing there were 2 cases of Scarlet Fever and 1 of Enteric Fever from Croston, and 4 cases of Enteric Fever from Skelmersdale.

Fifty-seven cases of Scarlet Fever, 51 cases of Diphtheria, and 8 cases of Enteric Fever were discharged cured.

There were 6 deaths, 4 being due to Diphtheria, 1 to Scarlet Fever, and 1 to Enteric Fever.

Eighty-seven per cent. of the cases of Scarlet Fever in the District were removed to the hospital ; 79 per cent. of the cases of Diphtheria ; and 60 per cent. of the cases of Enteric Fever.

The average length of residence in hospital of those suffering from Scarlet Fever was 6 weeks ; of those suffering from Diphtheria 4 weeks and 2 days ; of those suffering from Enteric Fever 6 weeks.

The average number in hospital per week was 15, the highest in any one week being 35 and the lowest 1.

The outside work has been as follows :—There were 120 journeys with the Ambulance, 160 with the Bedding Van, 740 rooms in 184 houses were disinfected, 4,966 articles of bedding, clothing, etc., were disinfected, and the disinfectant was used 165 times. One hundred and twenty journeys were made on the bicycle with the portable sprays to disinfect houses.

Included in the above are 3 journeys with the Ambulance and 8 with the Bedding Van to Croston ; 18 rooms in 4 houses and 96 articles were disinfected, the disinfectant being used 5 times. The Bedding Van made 13 journeys to Skelmersdale, 107 articles being disinfected, the disinfectant being used 7 times.

In addition to the foregoing, the Parochial Schools, Aughton, were disinfected 3 times, and Christ Church Schools once, Bickerstaffe Schools 11 times, Halsall Schools once, Hesketh Bank School once, and the Methodist Sunday School once, R.C. Schools Lydiate twice, and Tarleton Schools once.

PATIENTS ADMITTED TO THE HOSPITAL.

	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Diphtheria	Smallpox	Total.	Deaths.
1897	21	3	0	0	24	0
1898	23	2	0	0	25	0
1899	29	7	0	0	36	0
1900	80	2 & 1 (?)	0	0	83	3
1901	50	1	0	0	51	2
1902	66	3	1	1	71	3
1903	34	8 & 1 (?)	5	13	61	1
1904	61	4	1	0	66	2
1905	72	1	6	0	79	2
1906	34	12	3	0	49	3
1907	79	1	10	0	90	4
1908	63	3	1	0	67	3
1909	77	1	5	0	83	1
1910	67	1	21	0	89	1
1911	40	32	24	0	96	3
1912	93	5	8	0	106	4
1913	92	9	33	0	134	4
1914	64	8	71	0	143	6
Total ..	1045	105	189	14	1353	42

Percentage of admission of Patients suffering from Scarlet Fever to the ascertained cases in the West Lancashire Rural District each year:—

1897	..	..	..	..	9.5 per cent.
1898	..	..	..	..	28.7
1899	..	..	..	..	39.4
1900	..	..	..	..	56.9
1901	..	..	..	..	40.8
1902	..	..	..	..	53.0
1903	..	..	..	..	62.9
1904	..	..	..	..	53.9
1905	..	..	..	..	84.3
1906	..	..	..	..	87.1
1907	..	..	..	..	92.9
1908	..	..	..	..	84.9
1909	..	..	..	..	92.6
1910	..	..	..	..	87.5
1911	..	..	..	..	65.0
1912	..	..	..	..	77.9
1913	..	..	..	..	88.2
1914	..	..	..	..	86.5

OUTSIDE WORK IN CONNECTION WITH THE HOSPITAL

	JOURNEYS.		DISINFECTION.			
	Ambulance.	Bedding Van.	Rooms.	Houses.	Disinfect'r used.	Articles disinfected.
1897	16	31	28	20	28	543
1898	20	65	34	31	79	1,292
1899	30	176	104	85	217	4,411
1900	64	263	150	125	393	8,089
1901	38	245	128	112	369	6,586
1902	59	205	199	134	150	3,446
1903	52	149	352	107	143	7,980
1904	52	154	512	126	116	7,510
1905	61	148	578	133	122	9,339
1906	45	80	312	85	75	4,495
1907	65	122	538	101	136	6,224
1908	54	118	435	102	119	5,702
1909	65	121	403	107	103	4,971
1910	80	141	544	149	130	6,008
1911	63	106	392	139	107	4,270
1912	73	156	450	146	128	5,613
1913	119	203	803	184	201	6,552
1914	120	160	740	184	165	4,966
Totals...	1073	2,640	6,702	2,323	3,481	97,997

The house and grounds have as usual been kept in good order, Miss Peck having been as active as ever in her endeavours to have everything satisfactory.

BACTERIOLOGY.

Five hundred and four swabs from throats, noses and ears were sent for examination, 43 of these being reported upon as having the Klebs-Loeffler Bacillus present. One specimen of blood serum was sent, the report being of a negative character. A sample of sputum had no Tubercle Bacilli found in it. Two samples of milk were sent, one for Tubercle Bacilli and the other for the Klebs-Loeffler Bacillus, the report in each case being negative. A sample of water was also examined for Klebs-Loeffler Bacilli, the result being negative.

SCHOOL CLOSURE.

I considered it necessary to advise that the following schools should be closed on account of the prevalence of the diseases mentioned :—

Church of England School, Hesketh Bank, from March 3rd to March 16th, on account of Measles.

St. Mary's School, Scarisbrick, from March 18th to April 15th, on account of Measles.

Church of England School, Tarleton, from June 28th to July 20th, on account of Whooping Cough.

Mere Brow School, Tarleton, from July 1st to 27th, on account of Whooping Cough.

Primitive Methodist School, Banks, from August 18th to September 9th, on account of Whooping Cough.

Church of England School, Bickerstaffe, from October 2nd to 26th, and from December 8th to 24th, on account of Diphtheria.

Roman Catholic School, Lydiate, from November 9th to December 7th, on account of Whooping Cough.

Township School, Scarisbrick, from December 7th to 24th, on account of Measles.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT.

The Members of the Council have again had the question of adopting this Act before them, but decided to let the matter stand over for future consideration.

EXCLUSION OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN FROM SCHOOL.

When cases of infectious disease appear in a school, attempts are made in the first instance to prevent the disease spreading, by not only excluding the patient, but also all other members of the family, and any other children who have been directly exposed to infection; in this way the outbreak is frequently limited to a few cases, and it is unnecessary to close the school. Exception to the foregoing rule is sometimes made in the case of Measles and Whooping Cough, where those who have been exposed to infection have already had the disease.

SCHOOLS.

There are 23 Elementary Schools in the District. All are supplied with water from public service. The sanitary conveniences are on the whole in fair order, though repairs were needed in some instances, and at Halsall and St. Mary's, Scarisbrick, they have been reconstructed.

The arrangements for the Medical Inspection of School Children are made by the County Council, which body administers the Education Act.

A perusal of the foregoing part of the report will show the action taken to prevent the spread of infectious disease.

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DISTRICT.

Although containing an area of 61,600 acres, the physical features of the District do not vary very much. The Township of North Meols which lies to the West is flat and low, with sluggish natural drainage. The greater part of the

several Townships of Altcar, Downholland, Halsall, Hesketh, Lydiate, Maghull, Scarisbrick, and Tarleton, are also low and flat, but with slight undulations in places ; while Aughton, Bickerstaffe, Bispham, Melling, Rufford, and Simonswood, are all more or less undulating. At no part, however, is the altitude over 300 feet above sea level.

The population very largely consists of farmers and people connected with the farming industry. Aughton, Maghull, Scarisbrick, and Tarleton have, in addition, a considerable number of residents who are engaged in business in Liverpool, Southport, Preston, and other towns.

WATER SUPPLY.

The district is, on the whole, well supplied with water of excellent quality. The Southport, Birkdale, and West Lancashire Water Board have two wells in Aughton, another is being sunk in Bickerstaffe, and a fourth has been secured from the Urban District Council of Skelmersdale ; and from this Board's mains nine Townships are more or less supplied. Two receive their supply partially from the Ormskirk Urban District Council, two from the Preston Rural District Council, two from the St. Helens Corporation, and one from the Lathom and Burscough Urban District Council. A reference to the Table following will show the number of houses supplied from each source.

At the end of the year there were 4,023 houses supplied with water from public service, being an increase of 124 over the previous year, and 88·8 per cent. of the inhabited houses in the district. There were 40 new connections in Bickerstaffe, the Barrow Nook district having at last got its supply.

The Southport Water Board laid 101 yards of new main in Prescott Road, Aughton, and 55 yards in New Cut, Halsall.

The Map bound up at the end of the Report shows the various water mains in the District, and the extensions made during the year.

HOUSES SUPPLIED BY PUBLIC SERVICE AT THE END OF 1914.

1913.	Wigan Rural District Council.	Lathom and Burscough Main.	Liverpool Corporation.	Ormskirk Urban District Council.	Preston Rural District Council.	St. Helens Corporation.	Southport Joint Water Board.	TOTALS.	Increase during the year.	Percentage of Inhabited Houses thus supplied.
ALTCAR	59	59	2	61·3
AUGHTON	62	...	...	721	783	7	95·7
BICKERSTAFFE	55	...	...	260	315	40	80·5
BISPHAM	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	3·4
DOWNHOLLAND	131	131	1	88·5
HALSALL.....	272	272	15	82·6
HESKETH	283	...	..	283	20	99·0
LYDIATE.....	147	147	...	68·7
MAGHULL	4	288	292	2	97·6
MELLING	1	...	...	206	...	207	1	100·0
NORTH MEOLS	1	...	390	391	4	92·8
RUFFORD	184	...	...	...	...	...	184	2	96·3
SCARISBRICK	6	...	...	...	...	430	436	16	87·9
SIMONSWOOD	49	...	49	...	76·5
TARLETON	472	...	...	472	14	92·1
TOTALS FOR DISTRICT }	2	190	1	117	756	259	2698	4023	124	88·8

WATER ANALYSIS.

I analysed thirteen samples of well water, one of which was satisfactory, 9 were more or less unsatisfactory and 3 were polluted. A sample of water from the public main in Bickerstaffe contained a large amount of iron. A sample from a rain water tank in North Meols was bad. I also analysed 6 samples of the effluent from the Aughton Sewage Farm, all being satisfactory.

SEWERING AND DRAINING.

AUGHTON.—In this Township about three-fourths of the houses are connected with the system of sewers. The sewage from the southern watershed is carried to outfall works at the south-west of the Township, where it is treated with Alumino-Ferric, and allowed to settle in four open tanks from which it flows on to land for treatment by downward filtration. Good results are still got from that portion of the land which is covered with clinkers and cinders. The sewage from the northern watershed is, by agreement with the Ormskirk Urban District Council, received into the sewers of that place, and is carried to outfall works in Scarisbrick.

An application having been made to the Local Government Board to borrow money to carry out an extension of the sewer from the end of Bold Lane, along Prescott Road to Moor Hall, an inquiry was held on August 19th, at the Council Offices, Town End. The official sanction having been given, the work commenced in the autumn, but had not been completed at the end of the year.

BICKERSTAFFE.—A small portion of this Township which lies close to Ormskirk is by agreement connected with the sewer of the Urban District Council.

SCARISBRICK.—No further progress has been made in connection with the houses in Grimshaw Lane.

CESSPOOL SYSTEM.

In the great part of the District this system, with its attendant disadvantages, is the only available means of dealing with the sewage. In the more sparsely populated parts of the district, where land is sufficient for the purpose, with ordinary care, a cesspool does not become a nuisance ; but if the amount of land is insufficient, or the people are careless, a nuisance quickly arises. There has been this difficulty in past years in Banks and many nuisances have been caused, some of which have been very difficult to remedy, but I am now pleased to report that arrangements have been made to empty all cesspools that are liable to become a nuisance, by contract, the Council providing a specially constructed cart for the purpose.

HOUSE DRAINS.

Throughout the District generally these are fairly satisfactory. Inspections are continually being made, and defects, as found, are remedied ; the report of the Inspector, which follows, showing the work done in that department.

DISPOSAL OF EXCREMENT.

In Aughton, where there is a system of sewerage, excrement is largely disposed of by water carriage, also many of the larger houses in other parts of the District have water carriage from the house, but with the exception of a few houses in Tarleton, which are in close proximity to a tidal river, the connection is with a cesspool. The majority of the rest are provided with privy ashpits, built on a plan which some years ago was approved by the Local Government Board's Inspectors and is as satisfactory as anything of the kind can be. Old fashioned deep privy middens are still found in the course of inspection, but are growing less in number year by year.

During the year 18 old privy middens, and 22 privy ash-pits have been converted to pails, 1 privy midden to privy ashpit, and 3 pails and 26 privy ashpits to water closets. There are approximately in the District 630 water closets, 30 waste water closets, 350 pail closets, and 3390 privy ash-pits.

SCAVENGING.

AUGHTON.—The new arrangements which were made last year have been of considerable benefit to the Township, a reference to the Inspector's report will show the increased amount of work that was done during the year.

NORTH MEOLS.—The removal of refuse by contract from the more congested areas in this Township is now an established fact, the result being beneficial to these parts.

A reference to the Inspector's report will show the work done during the year.

In the other parts of the District householders usually make arrangements with neighbouring farmers to take the ashpit contents.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

None have been required during the year.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There are six registered in the District, and all were found in a satisfactory condition when visited.

LODGING HOUSES.

These premises have been found satisfactory when visited except on one occasion when lime washing was required.

MEAT INSPECTION.

Mrs. Sockett's premises in Banks Road, North Meols, were frequently visited by Inspector Ainsworth, until she left the neighbourhood. Five carcasses of cows were examined, and of these 3 were burnt in the Southport Refuse Destructor, and 2 were allowed to be taken to Zoo Park, and to be used for animal food. Two pigs were also examined in North Meols, one was allowed for human consumption and one was destroyed at the Southport Destructor. One carcass of a pig was inspected in Rufford and was passed for human food. Two of the carcasses of cows were tuberculous.

SALE OF FOODS AND DRUGS ACT.

This Act is administered by the County Police, and I am indebted to Superintendent Hodgson, of Ormskirk, and to Superintendent Whittaker, of Chorley, for the following information:—In that part of the District which is in the West Derby Hundred, 8 samples were taken in Aughton, 7 in Bickerstaffe, 3 in Lydiate, 7 in Maghull, 4 in Melling, and 8 in North Meols. A sample of coffee taken in Aughton was found to contain fifty per cent. of chicory and the defendant was fined 5/- and costs at the Ormskirk Police Court. In that part of the District in the Leyland Hundred, 3 samples were taken in Hesketh and nine in Tarleton, no prosecutions following.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

Regulations under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders are in force throughout the District. There were 54 registered Dairies and Cowsheds in 1914. Four new ones have been registered and two have been done away with. Two new ones have been built which take the place of old ones. Two required new drainage and 1 more efficient ventilation. Seventeen when visited required limewashing.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901 AND 1907.

There are 138 registered Workshops in the District. During the year 10 new places were registered, 3 were transferred, and 3 were removed from the register. Seventeen when visited required lime-washing, 2 extra ventilation, and 1 structural alterations.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACT, 1890, AND HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT, 1909.

Under this Act 611 houses have been visited during the year and particulars entered in the Record Book. The visits by the Inspectors numbered 1045. Three houses were found to be unfit for human habitation and were represented to the Council as such. Efforts were made to induce the owners to put them into a proper state of repair, but at the end of the year there had been no result. The discovered defects at 126 houses were remedied, and 136 were in process of being remedied at the end of the year. The defects in 48 houses were remedied without the service of notice. The Chief Surveyor informs me that 34 cottages for workmen have been built during the year.

More houses were inspected and records made than in any year since the Act came into operation, and although since the commencement of the War it has been more difficult to get work done owing to shortage of labour and the increased prices, there has been a substantial improvement.

The Table which follows sets out the work done during the year under the different heading, and in each Township.

TABLE SHOWING WORK DONE UNDER THE HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT, 1909.

1914.	Altear	Aughton	Bickerstaffe	Bispham	Downholland	Halsall	H'sk'th-with-Beconsall	Lydiate	Maghull	Melling	North Meols	Rufford	Scarisbrick	Simonswood	Tarleton	TOTALS
Houses referred by M.O.H. to Local Authority	136	18	10	30	2	32	24	..	254	..	13	50	42	611
Houses inspected by Sanitary Inspector	136	18	10	30	2	32	24	..	254	..	13	50	42	611
Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector	259	55	10	66	6	120	49	..	361	..	13	61	45	1045
Houses represented as unfit for human habitation	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	3
Closing Orders made by Local Authority
Defects remedied without Closing Orders	13	1	16	12	..	52	..	..	4	..	126
Defects in course of being remedied without Closing Orders	40	1	..	15	1	8	..	..	48	..	..	8	15	136
Defects remedied after Closing Orders
Closing Orders determined
Orders to execute work under Section 15	1	..	..	..	..	1
Orders to execute work under Public Health Act, 1875	38	16	..	13	2	20	3	..	73	..	1	..	3	169
Remedied without service of notice	1	..	3	..	4	9	..	27	..	..	4	..	48
Houses closed by Owner in lieu of remedying defects

BUILDING OPERATIONS.

Byelaws in connection with this department are in force throughout the District, and all plans must be sent to Mr. Robert Rosbotham, the Chief Surveyor, who reports on them to the various meetings, and examines the buildings from time to time during the course of erection.

I am indebted to Mr. Rosbotham for the following list of plans which were approved during the year in the various Townships :—

Township.	New Houses.	Additions and Outbuildings.	Other New Buildings.	Drains.	Totals.
Altcar	3				3
Aughton	4	7	8	3	22
Bickerstaffe		1			1
Bispham					
Downholland		1			1
Halsall	1	1			2
Hesketh	18	5			23
Lydiate	1	4			5
Maghull	4	5			9
Melling		1		1	2
North Meols		4	1		5
Rufford	1	2	2		5
Scarisbrick	19		2	1	22
Simonswood					
Tarleton	3	5			8
<hr/>					
Totals for Whole District	54	36	13	5	108
<hr/>					

Appended are :—

Tables I., II., III., IV. of the Local Government Board.

Home Office Table relating to Workshops.

Table C of the County Council.

Annual Reports of the Inspectors of Nuisances.

Table showing Sanitary Work in the District.

Annual Report on Canal Boats.

Copy of Rules and Regulations to be observed in the
Management of Infectious Cases.

Copy of Special Notice respecting Scarlet Fever.

Copy of Special Notice respecting Diarrhœa.

Copy of "Information for Consumptive People and
those who live with them."

Copy of Notice respecting Fish Refuse.

A Map showing the Water Mains laid on in the District.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

GEO. E. SCHOLEFIELD, M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE I.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1914 and previous Years.

YEAR.	1.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO DISTRICT.			
			Uncorrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
				Number.	Rate.					Number	Rate per 1,000 Net Births.	Number	Rate.
		2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.
1909.....		20156	436	437	22.12	251	12.45	10	27	44	100	268	13.57
1910.....		20486	464	464	23.11	219	10.69	9	21	36	77	231	11.50
1911.....		20684	419	421	20.76	263	12.71	13	24	44	104	274	13.51
1912.....		20744	441	442	21.73	215	10.57	21	20	30	67	214	10.52
1913.....		20782	411	411	20.12	236	11.36	7	35	39	94	262	12.56
1914.....		20951	405	407	19.81	253	12.31	18	38	52	127	273	13.03

* In Column 6 are included the whole of the deaths registered during the year as having actually occurred in the district.

For continuation of Notes see other side.

NOTES TO TABLE I.—*Continued.*

This Table is arranged to show the gross births and deaths in the district, and the births and deaths properly belonging to it with the corresponding rates. For years before 1911 some of the corrections as to transferable deaths probably will not be available. The rates should be calculated per 1000 of the estimated gross population as stated in Col. 2, without the use of the standardising factor for the district given in the Annual Report of the Registrar-General. In a district in which large Public Institutions for the sick or infirm seriously affect the statistics, the rates in Columns 5 and 13 may be calculated on a nett population, obtained by deducting from the estimated gross Population the average number of inmates not belonging to the district in such institutions.

In Column 12 is to be entered the number in Column 6, corrected by subtraction of the number in Column 8 and by addition of the number in Column 9. Deaths in Column 10 are to be similarly corrected by subtraction of the deaths under 1, included in the number given in Column 8, and by addition of the deaths under 1 included in the number given in Column 9.

† The Medical Officer of Health will be able from the returns made to him by the local Registrar of Deaths, as well as from the quarterly lists furnished by the Registrar-General, to fill in Column 8 in accordance with the rule in the next paragraph below. The Registrar-General, either directly or through the County Medical Officer of Health, will supply the Medical Officer of Health with the particulars of deaths to be entered in Column 9; and all such deaths must be included in this Column, unless an error is detected, and its correction has been accepted by the Registrar-General. For Column 4 the Registrar-General will furnish to the Medical Officer of Health a statement of the number of births needing to be added to or subtracted from the total supplied by the local Registrar.

‡ “Transferable Deaths” are deaths of persons who, having a fixed or usual residence in England or Wales, die in a district other than that in which they resided. The deaths of persons without fixed or usual residence, *e.g.*, casualties, must not be included in Columns 8 or 9, except in certain instances under 3 (*b*) below. The Medical Officer of Health will state in Column 8 the number of transferable deaths of “non-residents” which are to be deducted, and will state in Column 9 the number of deaths of “residents” registered outside the district which are to be added in calculating the nett death-rate of his district.

The following special cases arise as to Transferable Deaths:—

(1) Persons dying in Institutions for the sick or infirm, such as hospitals, lunatic asylums, workhouses and nursing homes (but not almshouses) must be regarded as residents of the district in which they had a fixed or usual residence at the time of admission. If the person dying in an Institution had no fixed residence at the time of admission the death is not transferable. If the patient has been directly transferred from one such institution to another, the death is transferable to the district of residence at the time of admission to the first Institution.

(2) The deaths of infants born and dying within a year of birth in an Institution to which the mother was admitted for her confinement should be referred to the district of fixed or usual residence of the parent.

(3) Deaths from Violence are to be referred (*a*) to the district of residence, under the general rule; (*b*) if this district is unknown or the deceased had no fixed abode, to the district where the accident occurred, if known; (*c*) failing this, to the district where death occurred, if known; and (*d*) failing this, to the district where the body was found.

Total population at all ages at Census 1911—20,684.

Area of District in acres (land and inland water)—61,600.

Total families or separate occupiers—4,459.

Table II.—Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year 1914.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	No. of Cases Notified.							Total Cases Notified in Each Locality.															Total Cases Removed to Hospital.		
	At Ages—Years.							Alcarr	Aughton	Bickerstaffe	Bispham	Downholland	Halsall	Hesketh	Lydiate	Magbull	Melling	North Meols	Rufford	Scarisbrick	Simonswood	Tarleton			
	Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.																		
Smallpox
Cholera
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	88	2	11	62	7	6	62	1	...	1	8	...	1	3	1	2	4	3
Erysipelas ...	12	...	...	...	3	5	...	...	...	3	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...
Scarlet Fever ...	74	...	13	50	8	3	...	...	...	9	...	1	15	1	12	3	2	6	...	...	2	...	2	...
Typhus Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever ...	6	...	...	2	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	1	...
Puerperal Fever ...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Polioomyelitis ...	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	18	...	...	1	5	7	...	...	...	1	2	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Other forms of "	11	...	...	4	...	4	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Measles ...	149	1	11	136	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	83	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...
Totals ...	362	3	36	256	25	30	9	3	41	76	3	3	22	95	11	7	7	13	3	63	4	11	...	137	

Isolation Hospital, Aughton, provided by the West Lancashire Rural District Council.

Table III.—Causes of, and ages at, Death during Year 1914.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.									Total deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District.
	All Ages.	Und'r 1.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
All Causes —										
Certified ...										
Uncertified ...	4	3							1	
Enteric Fever ...	1						1			1
Measles ...	1			1						
Scarlet Fever ...	1			1						2
Whooping Cough ...	5	2	1	2						
Diphtheria and Croup	7			1	6					5
Influenza ...	4						1	1	2	
Erysipelas ...	1					1				
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ...	12					4	2	5	1	
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	5	1	1			1	1	1		
Cancer, malignant disease ...	22				1		2	8	11	
Meningitis ...	5	4					1			
Organic Heart Disease	28	1					1	13	13	
Bronchitis ...	26	6	2	1			1	4	12	
Pneumonia (all forms)	19	4	2	1	1	2	3	3	3	3
Other diseases of respiratory organs ...	3							2	1	
Diarrhœa & Enteritis	3	3								
Nephritis and Bright's Disease ...	6	1				1		4		
Puerperal Fever ...										1
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy & Parturition	3						3			
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth.	19	19								
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide ...	9			1	1		1	4	2	
Suicide ...	1						1			
Other Defined Diseases	82	4	1	3	3	3	10	13	45	7
Diseases ill-defined or unknown ...	10	7							3	
Totals ...	273	52	7	11	12	12	28	58	93	19
Sub-Entries included in above figures:—										
Poliomyelitis ...	1				1					
Pneumonia ...	12	1	2	1		1	3	3	1	3

NOTES TO TABLE III.

- (a) All "Transferable Deaths" of residents, *i.e.*, of persons resident in the District who have died outside it, are to be *included* with the other deaths in columns 2-10. Transferable deaths of non-residents, *i.e.*, of persons resident elsewhere in England and Wales who have died in the District, are in like manner to be *excluded* from these columns. For the precise meaning of the term "transferable deaths" see footnote to Table I.

The Total Deaths in column 2 of Table III. should equal the figures for the year in column 12 of Table I.

- (b) All deaths occurring in institutions for the sick and infirm situated within the district, whether of residents or of non-residents, are to be entered in the last column of Table III.
- (c) All deaths certified by registered Medical Practitioners and all Inquest cases are to be classed as "Certified"; all other deaths are to be regarded as "Uncertified."
- (d) Exclusive of "Tuberculous Meningitis" (10), but inclusive of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.
- (e) Title 19 should be used for deaths from Diarrhœa and Enteritis at all ages. (In the "Short List" deaths from Diarrhœa and Enteritis under 2 years are included under Title 19; those at 2 years and over being placed under Title 28.)

Table IV.—Infant Mortality during the Year 1914.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 week	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months & under 12 months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes	Certified	12	1	1	6	20	9	10	5	5	49
	Uncertified	2				2				1	3
Small-pox											
Chicken-pox											
Measles											
Scarlet Fever											
Whooping Cough							1			1	2
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup).											
Erysipelas											
Tuberculous Meningitis											
Abdominal Tuberculosis										1	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases											
Meningitis (<i>Not Tuberculous</i>)								2	2		4
Convulsions		1		1	1	3				1	4
Laryngitis					1	1	2	2		1	6
Bronchitis							1	1	1	1	4
Pneumonia (all forms).								1			
Diarrhœa											
Enteritis					1	1	1				2
Gastritis									1		1
Syphilis											
Rickets											
Suffocation, over-lying											
Injury at Birth											
Atelectasis		1				1					1
Congenital Malform't's											
Premature Birth		5			1	6					6
Atrophy, Debility, and											
Marasmus		6	1		1	8	3	2			13
Other Causes		1			1	2	1	2	1	1	7
		14	1	1	6	22	9	10	5	6	52

Births in the Year {legitimate, 393
illegitimate, 14}Nett Deaths in the year of {legitimate infants, 49
illegitimate infants, 3}

NOTES TO TABLE IV.

(a) The total in the last column of Table IV. should equal the total in column 10 of Table I., and in column 3 of Table III.

(b) Under Abdominal Tuberculosis are to be included deaths from Tuberculosis Peritonitis and Enteritis and from Tabes Mesenterica.

(c) The total deaths from Congenital Malformations, Premature Birth, Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus, should equal the total in Table III. under the heading Congenital Debility, and Malformation including Premature Birth.

Want of Breast Milk should be included under Atrophy and Debility.

(d) For references to the meaning of any other headings, see notes attached to Table III.

In recording the facts under the various headings of Tables I., II., III., and IV., attention has been given to the notes on the Tables.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1914, IN CONNECTION WITH
FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES, AND
HOMEWORK.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND
WORKPLACES.

WORKSHOPS :—Inspections, 288 ; Written notices, 4 ;
Prosecutions, nil.

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS
AND WORKPLACES.

WANT OF CLEANLINESS	Found, 17 ;	Remedied, 17.
WANT OF VENTILATION	Found, 2 ;	Remedied, 1.
OTHER NUISANCES	Found, 1 ;	Remedied, 1.
	—	—
	20	19

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Boat Builders	..	..	..	..	..	1
Dressmakers	..	..	..	..	..	17
Shoemakers .	..	..	..	..	..	22
Bakers	..	..	..	..	..	9
Basketmakers	..	..	..	..	..	13
Wheelwrights	..	..	..	..	..	27
Blacksmiths	..	..	..	..	..	29
Confectioners	..	..	..	..	..	2
Saddlers	..	..	..	..	..	3
Joiners	..	..	..	..	..	3
Tailors	..	..	..	..	..	8
Tinsmiths	..	..	..	..	..	1
Laundries	..	..	..	..	..	3

Total number of Workshops or Register . . . 138

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

MATTERS NOTIFIED TO H.M. INSPECTOR OF FACTORIES :
Number 1.

Table C. COUNTY OF LANCASTER.

SUMMARY OF MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1914.

RURAL DISTRICT OF WEST LANCASHIRE.

Medical Officer of Health :

GEORGE EDWARD SCHOLEFIELD, M.D., D.P.H.

Salary, £500.

Inspectors of Nuisances :

T. G. H. HUNTER, Salary £120.

J. AINSWORTH, Salary £90.

What is the character of the Hospital Accommodation?—

For Small-pox, see Report page 10. For other Infectious Diseases, see Report page 18.

Is it Joint or otherwise?—No, but Croston, Skelmersdale and Ormskirk Guardians can send patients by agreement.

Number of Beds available *for your District*?—For Small-pox 8.

For other Infectious Diseases 26.

Deaths in Hospital of patients *from your District*?—From what causes?—Diphtheria 4, Enteric Fever 1, Scarlet Fever 1.

How is Disinfection carried out?—Houses, Formalin spray.

No. of Houses disinfected?—184.

Apparatus used for Clothing, Bedding, &c. (steam or otherwise)?—Thresh Steam Disinfector.

Where is apparatus situated?—Isolation Hospital, Aughton.

If Apparatus at a Hospital is available is it used for the disinfection of Clothing, Bedding, &c., of Patients *not* removed to the Hospital?—Yes.

Are any Diseases not specially mentioned in the Infectious Diseases Notification Act notifiable (for instance, Measles, Whooping Cough, Diarrhœa, Chicken Pox, &c.)?—If so, what are they?—No.

Diseases specially prevalent?—Diphtheria, Measles, Whooping Cough.

Period?—Spring and Autumn.

No. of times School Closure adopted?—9. For what disease?—See Report page 23.

No. of Special Reports made under Art. XIX. (15 and 16) Sanitary Officers' Order, 1910?—One.

Bacteriological Examinations. Specimens examined: Blood 1, Swabs 504, Sputum 1, Milk 2, Water 1.

Arrangement (if any) made under the Diphtheria Anti-toxin Order, 1910?—Yes.

“ THE HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACTS, 1890 to 1909.”

Has your Authority determined the procedure to be adopted for the inspection of your District as required by Article 1 of the Regulations?—Yes.

Has your Authority prepared, as required by Article 1 (3), a list of dwelling-houses, the early inspection of which is desirable?—Yes.

Has your Authority designated an officer to undertake the special inspection of houses and to keep the records stipulated by Article 2. If so, what officer?—Yes.

Have the necessary books, forms, &c., for keeping the required records been obtained?—Yes.

Action taken in 1914 :—

No. of Dwelling-houses inspected under Sec. 17 of the Act of 1909 ?—611.

„ Dwelling-houses considered unfit for human habitation ?—3.

„ Representations to Authority with a view to making Closing Orders, 3.

„ Closing Orders made ?—0.

„ Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied without making Closing Orders ?—126.

„ Dwelling-houses put into a fit state of habitation after making Closing Orders ?—0.

„ Dwelling-houses demolished ?—0.

General character of defects found to exist ?—Damp walls, faulty sanitary accommodation.

Is there a deficiency of housing accommodation? If so, where, and to what extent ?—Not at present.

Number of New Houses built during 1914. By and at the cost of the District Council ?—0. By private enterprise ?—34.

Source of the Water Supply.—See Report page 25.

What is its condition ?—Good.

Possibilities of contamination ?—Very slight.

Any insufficiency, and where ?—No.

Is Scavenging and Removal of House Refuse carried out satisfactorily for whole of district ?—See Report page 29.

How performed (state whether by Sanitary Authority, Contract, or Occupiers of Houses) ?—See Report page 29.

How is the Refuse disposed of ?—Deposited in isolated pits and taken by farmers.

Has a Destructor been provided ?—No.

Sewage Disposal Works. Method of Treatment ?—See Report page 27.

What is the character of the Drainage System? Any developments during year ?—See Report page 27.

Areas, or Townships, without proper drainage system ?—All except Aughton, part of Bickerstaffe, and part of Tarleton.

Action taken—Drain Testing, Flushing, &c. ?—Sewers flushed, drains tested as required.

Action taken with regard to the Pollution of Streams ?—None.

Canal Boats : Number Inspected ?—64. Number of Infringements of Acts ?—11.

What is the condition of the Bakehouses ?—Satisfactory.

What is the condition of the Slaughter Houses ?—Satisfactory. Has a Public Abattoir been provided ?—No.

What is the condition of the Lodging Houses ?—Satisfactory. Are they Registered ?—Yes.

What is the Sanitary condition of the Schools ?—Satisfactory on the whole.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops—

Are they periodically inspected ?—Yes.

What is their condition ?—Satisfactory on the whole.

Have Regulations been made under the Order of the L.G.B. ?—Yes.

Are they enforced ?—Yes.

Amount of air space in cubic feet required for each cow ?
None specified in regulations.

No. of Cowkeepers ? No. on Register ?—53.

No. of inspections during year ?—112.

No. of Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than Cowkeepers) ?—No. on Register ?—1.

Any arrangements for veterinary inspection of dairy cows ?—Nil.

Action taken (if any) as to tuberculous milk ?—One sample submitted for examination.

Total amount of Food seized as unfit for Human Consumption ?—6 carcasses.

No. of Carcasses and parts of Carcasses condemned for Tuberculosis ?—2.

No. of Legal Proceedings, and result ?—None.

Department of Inspector of Nuisances :—

No. of Notices served ?—160.

Nuisances remedied ?—324.

No. of Legal Proceedings taken and result?—None.

Closet accommodation of the District :—

No. of Privy Middens?—3390.

Pail Closets?—350.

Fresh Water Closets?—630.

Waste Water Closets?—30.

No. of Privy Middens converted during 1914?—To W.C.'s—26. To Pails, &c.—40.

No. of Pail Closets converted to W.C.'s?—3.

Does Council contribute towards the cost of conversion of either privies or pail closets, or both? If so, how much?—No.

What kind of closet accommodation is being provided for *new* property?—W.C.'s and Pails chiefly.

Smoke :—

No. of Observations?—Nil.

No. of Legal Proceedings taken and result?—Nil.

What is the time limit allowed for the emission of black smoke per hour?—Nil.

Has the Authority adopted :—

“ Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890 ”?—Yes.

“ The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 ”?—Yes.

“ The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907 ”?—Yes.

“ The Notification of Births Act, 1907 ”?—No.

Has a Health Visitor (whole, or part-time) been appointed?—No.

Has any, and if so, what action been taken respecting Child Welfare Work?—No.

Notable Sanitary Improvements during 1914.—Extension of Sewer commenced in Aughton.

Chief Sanitary requirements of District.—None out of the ordinary.

GEO. E. SCHOLEFIELD,

Medical Officer of Health.

March 25th, 1915.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES
OF THE
WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

DEAR SIR,—

We have great pleasure in submitting our Annual Report for the whole District, as to the number of matters dealt with, under the various Acts, relating to Public Health, during the year 1914.

ALTCAR.

Workshops, registered number	1
Visits to the above Workshops	3
Schools inspected	1

AUGHTON.

Number of Nuisances dealt with	85
Statutory Notices served	5
Statutory Notices complied with	3
Preliminary Notices served	19
Preliminary Notices complied with	16
Nuisances abated without service of notice	8
Inspections made	163
Drains tested	1
Water certificates granted under the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878	5
Water supplies obtained under the provisions of Sec. 62, Public Health Act, 1875	2
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	13
Complaints as to limewashing	5
New registrations	1
Registrations abolished	1

Registered Slaughterhouses, kept clean and satisfactory	4
Workshops, registered number	23
Workshops, required limewashing	1
Visits to the above workshops	56
New Registrations	2
Transferred Registrations	3
Privies converted to Water Closets	24
Privies converted to Pail Closets	2
Scavenging—Number of receptacles emptied..	3,652
Samples of water obtained for Analysis .. .	2
Schools inspected	2

BICKERSTAFFE.

Nuisances from various causes	227
Preliminary notices served	16
Preliminary notices complied with	5
Statutory notices served	3
Statutory notices complied with	2
Nuisances abated without service of notice ..	2
Houses supplied with water under the Public Health Act, 1875	18
Number of notices served and complied with	3
Inspections made	278
Certificates granted under the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878	3
Samples of water obtained for analysis . ..	4
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops	3
Premises required limewashing	1
Workshops, registered number	11
Workshops abolished	1
New registrations	2
Visits to the said workshops	25
Limewashing required	2
Schools inspected	1

BISPHAM.

Nuisances from various causes	..	..	..	18
Notices served	..	..	..	14
Notices complied with	..	..	..	13
Abated without notice	..	..	..	2
Inspections made	..	..	..	55
Sample of water for analysis	..	..	..	1
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops	..	..	..	1
New Registration	..	..	..	1
Workshops, registered number	..	..	..	7
Workshops required limewashing.	..	..	..	1
Workshops, transfer of registration	..	..	..	1
Workshops, visits to same	..	..	..	14

DOWNHOLLAND.

Nuisances from various causes	..	..	..	14
Number of inspections made	..	..	..	14
Workshops, registered number	..	..	..	3
Visits to the said workshops	..	..	..	6
Certificates granted under the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878	..	..	..	1
Schools inspected	..	..	..	1

HALSALL.

Nuisances from various causes	..	..	..	31
Notices served	..	..	..	10
Notices complied with	..	..	..	7
Abated without notice	..	..	..	3
Inspections made	..	..	..	72
Water Certificates under Public Health (Water) Act, 1878	..	..	..	9
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops	..	..	..	5
Dairies, limewashing required	..	..	..	2
Workshops, registered number	..	..	..	7
Workshops required limewashing.	..	..	..	1
Workshops, visits to same	..	..	..	14
Conversions to Pails	..	..	..	10

HESKETH-WITH-BECCONSALL.

Nuisances from various causes	12
Notices served	3
Notices complied with	2
Abated without service of notice	8
Inspections made	25
Certificates granted under the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878	6
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops	2
Dairies required limewashing	1
Workshops, registered number	9
Visits to the said workshops	17
Conversions to Pails	2

LYDIATE.

Nuisances from various causes	60
Preliminary notices served	7
Preliminary notices complied with	2
Nuisances abated without service of notice ..	13
Number of Inspections	123
Samples of water obtained for analysis . ..	5
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	2
Limewashing required	1
Workshops, registered number	9
Workshops, new registrations	1
Limewashing required	2
Visits to workshops	16
Schools inspected	2

MAGHULL.

Number of nuisances dealt with . ..	40
Statutory notices served	2
Statutory notices complied with	2
Preliminary notices served	13
Preliminary notices complied with	13
Nuisances abated without service of notice ..	19
Number of Inspections made	73

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	..	..	3
Workshops, registered number	..	..	10
New registrations	..	..	1
Visits to the above workshops	..	..	20
Complaints as to limewashing	..	..	3
Water samples obtained for analysis	..	..	1
Certificates granted under the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878	..	..	2
Houses supplied with water under the Public Health Act, 1875	..	..	2
Slaughterhouses kept clean	..	..	2
Schools inspected	..	..	2

MELLING.

Nuisances from various causes	..	..	32
Preliminary notices served	..	..	7
Preliminary notices complied with	..	..	6
Statutory notices served	..	..	1
Statutory notices complied with	..	..	1
Nuisances abated without service of notice	..	..	2
Number of Inspections made	..	..	41
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	..	..	1
Registrations abolished	..	..	1
Workshops, registered number	..	..	4
New Registration	..	..	1
Visits to the Workshops	..	..	9
Privies converted to Water Closets	..	..	2
Schools inspected	..	..	2

NORTH MEOLS.

Nuisances from various causes	..	..	164
Notices served	..	..	50
Notices complied with	..	..	25
Abated without service of notice	..	..	36
Inspections made	..	..	271
Certificates granted under the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878	..	..	1

Sample of Water for analysis	..	..	..	1
Drains tested	..	..	..	7
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	..	..	..	11
Dairies required limewashing	..	..	..	2
New registration	..	..	..	2
Workshops, registered number	..	..	..	9
Limewashing required	..	..	..	1
Visits to the said workshops	..	..	..	18
Conversions to Pails	..	..	..	14
Conversion to Water Closet	..	..	..	1
Carcases Inspected	..	..	..	7
Scavenging, Privies emptied,	1151			
Pails	2093	—	256 Loads	
Cesspools	133	—	167	„
Ash Bins	114	—	275	„
Ashes, number of premises from..	..	..	369	

RUFFORD.

Nuisances from various sources	..	..	..	3
Notice served	..	..	..	1
Notice complied with	..	..	..	1
Abated without service of notice	..	..	..	2
Inspections made	..	..	..	6
Certificates granted under the Public Health				
(Water) Act, 1878	..	..	..	1
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	..	..	..	2
Limewashing required	..	..	..	1
Workshops, registered number	..	..	..	13
Workshops required limewashing.	..	..	..	2
Workshops, other nuisances	..	..	..	1
Visits to the said workshops	..	..	..	26
Conversion to Pail	..	..	..	1
Carcase inspected	..	..	..	1

SCARISBRICK.

Nuisances from various causes	..	..	..	14
Notices served	..	..	..	2

Notice complied with	1
Abated without service of notice	5
Inspections made	23
Samples of water for analysis	2
Drains tested	2
Certificates granted under the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878	4
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	6
Limewashing required	3
More ventilation required	1
New drainage required	1
Transfer of registration	1
Workshops, registered number	12
Workshops required limewashing	2
Transfer of registration	2
Visits to the said workshops	23
Conversions to Pails	8

SIMONSWOOD.

Nuisances from various causes	67
Nuisances abated without service of notice ..	14
Number of Inspections made	61
Workshops, registered number	2
Number of visits to the said workshops. ..	4

TARLETON.

Nuisances from various causes	28
Notices served	7
Notices complied with	4
Abated without service of notice	7
Inspections made	40
Drains tested	1
Certificates granted under the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878	4
Registered lodging houses	3
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	5
Dairies required limewashing	2

Dairies, new drainage	..	..	..	..	1
Workshops, registered number	..	..	..	..	18
Workshops required limewashing.	..	..	..	..	2
Workshop, more ventilation	..	..	..	..	1
New registration	..	..	..	..	3
Visits to the said workshops	..	..	..	..	37
Conversion to pail	..	..	..	..	1

We are,

Yours truly,

T. G. H. HUNTER, } Sanitary
JAS. AINSWORTH, } Inspectors.

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF MATTERS DEALT WITH BY THE
INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES DURING 1914.

WHOLE DISTRICT.	Nuisances from various sources.	Inspections made to such nuisances.	Drains colour tested.	Samples of Water analysed.	Water supplies under PHA, 1875, & PHWA, 1878	Registered Common Lodging-houses.	Number of Inspections.	Registered Slaughter-houses.	Number of Inspections.	Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order, 1885.	Number of Inspections.	Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.—Registered.	Number of Inspections.	Number of Inspections.	Scavenging—Number of contents removed.	Preliminary Notices served.	Complied with.	Statutory Notices served	Complied with.	Schools inspected.	Carcasses inspected.	TOTALS.
ALTCAR.....	85	163	1	2	7	...	...	4	8	13	28	1	3	3	3,652	19	16	5	3	1	...	...
AUGHTON.....	237	278	2	4	21	...	...	...	...	3	6	23	23	56	...	16	5	3	2	2	...	...
BICKERSTAFFE.....	18	55	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	11	7	25	...	14	13	...	...	1	...	...
BISPHAM.....	14	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	6	14	...	10	7	...	...	1	...	...
DOWNHOLLAND.....	31	72	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	5	9	7	14	17	...	3	2	...	...	1	...	...
HAISALL.....	12	25	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	2	5	9	17	16	...	7	2	...	...	1	...	...
HESKETH-WITH- BECCONSALL...	60	123	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	9	16	20	...	13	13	2	2	2	...	...
LYDIATE.....	40	73	...	1	4	...	...	2	4	3	7	10	20	9	...	7	6	1	1	2	...	...
MAGHULL.....	32	41	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	4	9	18	...	50	25	...	...	2	...	...
MELLING.....	164	271	7	1	1	...	...	...	...	11	21	9	18	26	3,860	1	1	...	...	2	7	...
NORTH MEOLS (RURAL)	3	6	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	4	13	26	23	...	2	1	...	...	2	1	...
RUFFORD.....	14	23	2	2	4	...	...	...	...	6	13	12	23	4	...	2	1	...	...	2	...	...
SCARISBRICK.....	67	61	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	37	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
SIMONSWOOD.....	28	40	1	...	4	3	9	...	...	5	10	18	...	...	...	7	4	...	...	2	...	...
TARLETON.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	795	1245	13	16	57	3	9	6	12	54	112	138	288	7,512	149	95	11	8	22	8	..	..

We beg to thank you for favours received through the year.

Yours truly,

T. G. H. HUNTER, } Sanitary Inspectors.
JAS. AINSWORTH, }

ANNUAL REPORT ON CANAL BOATS FOR THE
YEAR 1914.

*To the Chairman and Members of the West Lancashire Rural
District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

The method of *Inspection* usually adopted by the Inspector is to board a boat when on a voyage, as the occupants at that time are unprepared for his visit, but he also inspects boats that he finds tied up.

Mr. T. G. H. Hunter, of Small-lane, Ormskirk, is the Inspector, who receives no special remuneration, the work being included with his other duties as Sanitary Inspector.

The *number* of boats inspected during the year was 64, and the condition of them and of their occupants was on the whole satisfactory.

Two boats were not so clean as desirable and two were in need of repairs.

Eight cases were found in which no *certificate* was on board. The owners were written to and five were produced without undue delay. In the other three cases notices were required. In all cases new certificates had to be issued by the Liverpool Registration Authority. The case which was outstanding at the end of 1913 was completed satisfactorily by March, 1914.

Three cases were found in which the certificates produced did not identify the owners with the boats; and there were three instances in which the boats were not properly marked. These matters were remedied, notices being necessary in two cases.

Six *caution notices* were served during the year.

No *legal proceedings* were necessary.

No cases of an *infectious* nature were found, nor was it necessary to detain any boat for cleansing or disinfection.

Seventeen children under the age of fourteen years were found on board.

We are, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servants,

GEO. E. SCHOLEFIELD,

Medical Officer of Health.

T. G. H. HUNTER,

Sanitary Inspector.

West Lancashire Rural District Council

GENERAL RULES

TO BE OBSERVED IN THE

MANAGEMENT

— OF —

Infectious Diseases.

1. The patient should be separated as completely as possible from the other inmates of the house ; or, better still, removed to the Isolation Hospital. First cases should always be removed to hospital.

2. Remember that the danger of infection is the same in all cases, whether mild or severe.

3. The sickroom should be made as bare as possible by the removal of all bed-curtains, carpets, and unnecessary articles of furniture.

4. The sickroom should be well ventilated ; the windows should be kept partly open when the weather permits, and a fire burning.

5. The door should be kept closed, and a sheet hung over it and kept wet with the disinfectant solution, Disinfectants may be had, free of charge, from the Sanitary Inspectors—Mr. Hunter, Small Lane, Ormskirk ; Mr. Ainsworth, Hoole Lane, Banks ; Mr. Blundell, the Post Office, Banks ; Mr. Latham, the Post Office, Tarleton ; Mr. Cundliffe, the Post Office, Maghull ; and Mr. Mawdsley, the Post Office, Halsall.

6. The nurse should wear washing clothes, and always wash and disinfect her hands and face, and change her shoes and outer clothes after leaving the sickroom.

7. No food or drink which has been in the same room as the patient should be used by anyone else. It should be burned.

8. Plates, cups, spoons, clothes and anything else brought from the sickroom should be placed in disinfectant solution for at least half-an-hour, and afterwards washed in water by themselves.

9. The patient's discharges should be received into a vessel containing a disinfectant of an approved nature.

10. Pieces of rag should be used instead of handkerchiefs, and burned immediately after use.

11. When scales or crusts form upon the skin, it should be kept well smeared with carbolic oil or grease.

12. No visitors should be allowed.

13. The patient should not be allowed to sleep in the same room as any healthy person until at least a fortnight after apparently complete recovery.

14. The Medical Officer of Health should be informed when the illness is at an end, when a van will be sent to remove the bedding and clothes for disinfection and will afterwards bring them back.

15. Disinfection of a sickroom or other room of a house must be done to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer of Health. The disinfection will be carried out by the Council's Officials, free of charge, if so desired by the occupier.

16. The whole of the house should be kept well ventilated, clean, and in good sanitary order throughout the illness.

GEO. E. SCHOLEFIELD, M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Aughton, near Ormskirk.

P E N A L T I E S .



1.—For failing to notify the Medical Officer of Health of cases of any of the following diseases :—Smallpox, Cholera, Diphtheria, Membranous Croup, Erysipelas, the disease known as Scarlatina or Scarlet Fever, and the Fevers known by any of the following names :—Typhus, Typhoid, Enteric, Relapsing, Continued, or Puerperal.. .. . £2

2.—For entering any street, public place, shop, inn, or public conveyance while in an infectious state £5

3.—For exposing any infected person in any street, public place, shop, inn, or public conveyance £5

4.—For giving, lending, transmitting, or exposing any article without disinfection £5

5.—For refusing to deliver articles to the Officers of the Council for the purposes of disinfection £10

6.—For casting infected rubbish without previous disinfection into any ashpit or other receptacle for refuse .. £5

7.—For ceasing to occupy infected houses or rooms without previous disinfection of them and their contents, or giving notice to the owner of the previous occurrence of infectious disease in them £10

8.—For making a false statement to an owner or prospective tenant as to there having been within a house or room during a previous period of six weeks any person suffering from an infectious disease £10

9.—For letting any infected room or premises without disinfection to the satisfaction of a qualified medical practitioner £20

10.—For making a false statement to a prospective tenant as to there being, or having been within a previous period of six weeks, an infected person in a house or part of a house exposed for hire .. Imprisonment with or without hard labour, or £20

11.—For hiring or using any conveyance other than a hearse for the removal of the body of a person who has died of an infectious disease without first informing the owner of the cause of death £5

12.—If the owner fails to have such conveyance disinfected after removal of such body £5

West Lancashire Rural District Council.

SCARLET FEVER.

It is dangerous and illegal to send any Child or Person who has suffered from this Fever, or any other dangerous Infectious Disease, to School, or into any public place, until free from infection, however mild the case may be. PENALTY—Not exceeding FIVE POUNDS.

The Law requires that every person in charge of such a case should give immediate notice of existence thereof to the Medical Officer of Health, whether this has been already done by a Medical Man or not. PENALTY for neglect to give this notice is a sum not exceeding FORTY SHILLINGS.

The District Council provides hospital accommodation for infected cases, and disinfects Clothing, Bedding, &c., when necessary, at the public expense. All persons living within the District are at liberty to avail themselves of these provisions.

On removal of a patient suffering from Scarlet Fever to the Hospital, no other child from the house should attend school until at least a fortnight has elapsed.

Should the patient be nursed at home no other child should attend school until a fortnight after the house has been disinfected.

When the patient is considered by the Medical Attendant to be free from infection, the Medical Officer of Health should be informed, when he will arrange for the necessary disinfection to be carried out.

By Order of the District Council.

GEO. E. SCHOLEFIELD, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

AUGHTON, near ORMSKIRK.

West Lancashire Rural District Council.

INFANTILE DIARRHŒA.

Infants and young children are liable during the Summer and Autumn months to attacks of Diarrhœa, which, especially in the case of Infants, may very rapidly become of a serious nature, and a fatal result ensue.

All Parents and Guardians of Young Children are urged to take all possible precautions to prevent the occurrence of this disease.

The following are useful means to take :—

Remove all Refuse of whatever nature as far as possible from the vicinity of the house.

Burn all Household, Animal, and Vegetable Refuse.

Carefully cover all Food, especially milk, to prevent its contamination by Flies or other insects.

Use every available means to Kill Flies, which frequently are the carriers of this and other diseases.

Put Dry Earth into Privies, which should be frequently emptied.

It is advisable that medical advice should be obtained on the appearance of even a slight attack of the disease.

GEO. E. SCHOLEFIELD, M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

West Lancashire Rural District Council.

Information for Consumptive People and those who live with them.

1. Consumption is a preventable disease which is caused by minute living germs, called "tubercle bacilli," which usually enter the body with the air breathed.

2. The matter which consumptive people cough or spit up contains the germs of the disease in great numbers. If this matter is spat upon the floors, or the walls of any public or private place, or elsewhere, as soon as it becomes dry the germs of the disease which it contains are blown about and float in the air, like any other particles of dust, and are inhaled by anybody breathing that air; or they may fall upon milk or other food, and gain access to the body with that food. These are the commonest ways in which the seeds of the disease enter the body of a healthy person.

3. It is dangerous to sleep with or to live in close relationship with a consumptive, unless the patient is careful that what he coughs up is destroyed. A pocket bottle or a cup containing a little water and disinfectant should be used to spit in, so that the matter may not dry, and it should be emptied into the

fire (not into the ashpit, or upon the footwalk, or the roadway), and the cup carefully washed afterwards with boiling water. If the consumptive prefers to use soft paper, linen, or calico cloths, or handkerchiefs to spit in, they should be thrown upon the fire and burnt forthwith. He should take care that his hands, face, and clothing do not become soiled with the matter coughed up. He should never swallow the expectoration; it is dangerous. When coughing he should always cover his mouth with the hand and turn the head aside.

4. A consumptive should sleep alone; the windows should always be wide open, except when dressing and undressing. The bed clothing and personal clothing should be boiled and washed separately from the clothing of other people.

5. Tubercle bacilli are not only the cause of ordinary consumption of the lungs, but they may also give rise to consumption of the bowels and other parts of the body, and therefore milk and other uncooked food should be carefully protected from the tubercle bacilli. If such food be kept in a place to which a consumptive patient of careless habits has access, and who may spit upon the floor, the dry particles of the matter spat up may blow about with the dust and find access to the milk or other food and in this way contaminate it. Mothers who are consumptive should not suckle their children.

6. Cows suffer from consumption, and the milk from consumptive cows is liable to contain the tubercle bacilli. Milk had better be boiled for a few seconds, unless the consumer is sure that it comes from a healthy cow, and that it has not been exposed to

danger of contamination afterwards. These precautions should be specially observed in the case of children.

7. Consumption is a disease from which large numbers of patients recover if the rooms they occupy are always kept thoroughly well-ventilated and free from dust.

8. Sunshine and fresh air destroy tubercle bacilli, and are the principal curative agents; the more sunshine and fresh air the consumptive patient gets, the more likely he is to recover.

9. Rooms that have been occupied by consumptives should be thoroughly disinfected and cleansed before they are again occupied, and the carpets and bedding should be disinfected; in fact, so far as these precautions are concerned, consumption may be regarded in precisely the same light as any other infectious disease.

10. The Council's Officials are always ready to do the necessary disinfection, both of rooms and of clothing, free of charge.

By Order of the Council,

GEO. E. SCHOLEFIELD, M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health,

Aughton, near Ormskirk.

West Lancashire Rural District
Council.



FISH REFUSE.



WHEREAS, persons are in the habit of depositing the REFUSE from FISH, arising from the preparation of such Fish for Sale, on waste pieces of land, and in ditches adjoining the Highways in some parts of the District of the Sanitary Authority, which refuse becomes a nuisance, and injurious to health.

Notice is Hereby Given

That such persons must at once cease to make the deposits above named, and any person acting in contravention of this Notice will be proceeded against according to law.

By Order,

ALFRED DICKINSON,

Clerk to the said Council

December, 1908.

PLAN OF WATER MAINS

WITHIN THE WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT



Note

WATER MAINS LAID PREVIOUS TO JANUARY 1914

DITTO DO. DURING THE YEAR 1914

CHURCHES SHOWN

SCALE, 1 INCH TO 1 MILE

FURLONGS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

Geo. E. Scholefield, M.D., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

Robert Rosbotham, M. Inst. Mun. E.
Chief Surveyor.
1915.

